

Welcome to Divyadeepa

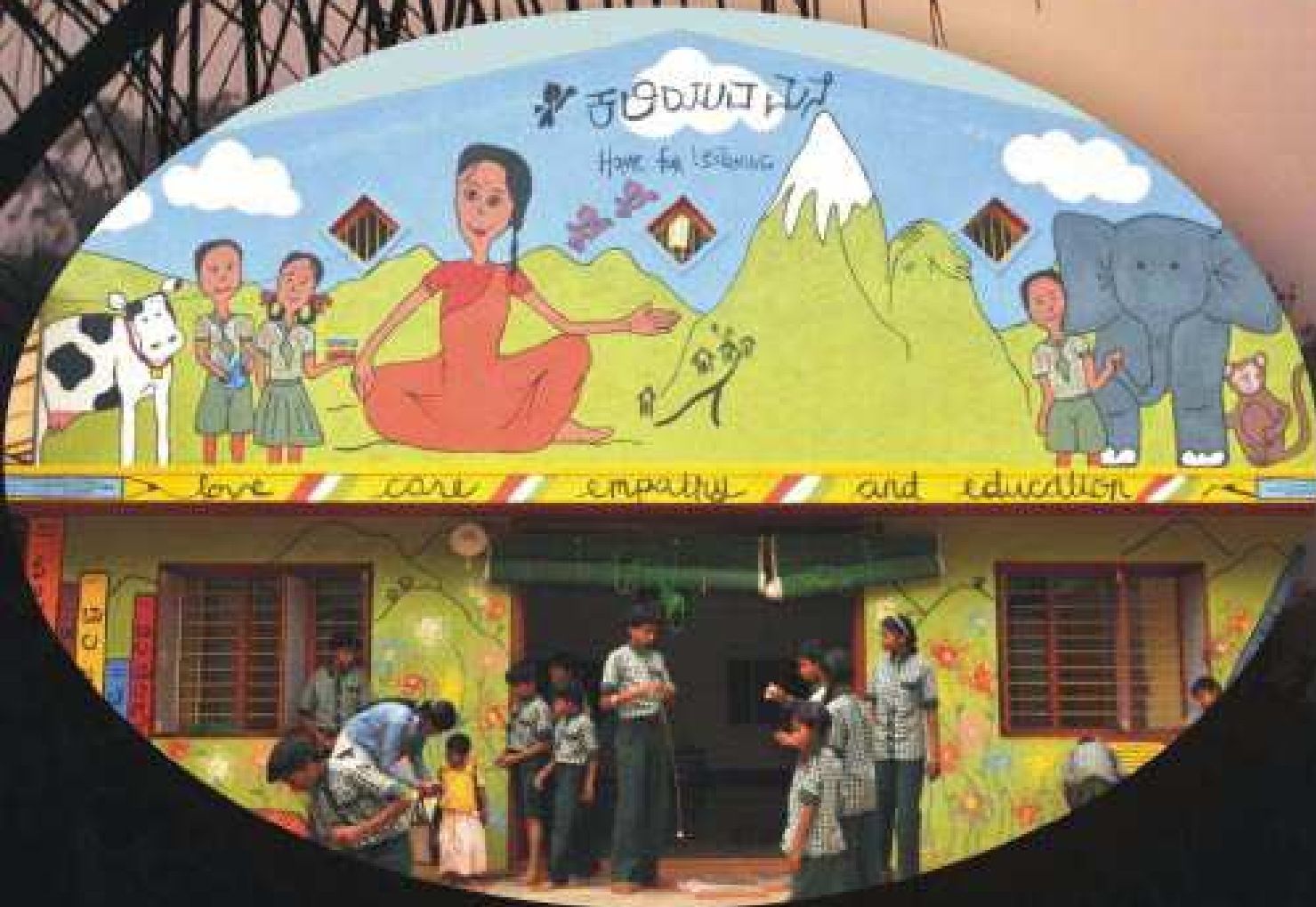
(Divyadeepa is a Kannada word for Divine Lamp)

Divya Deepa Charitable Trust

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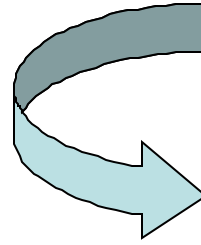
Kaliyuva Mane

A Kannada word for 'Home for learning'

*An experimental school and rural educational research home :
Special focus : OUT OF SYSTEM children.*

Shift in approach

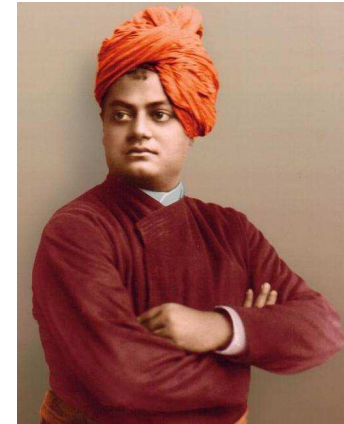
Children for school



School for children



Sri Aurobindo



Swami Vivekananda

Our Inspiration & Guide lights

Why is India still a developing country?

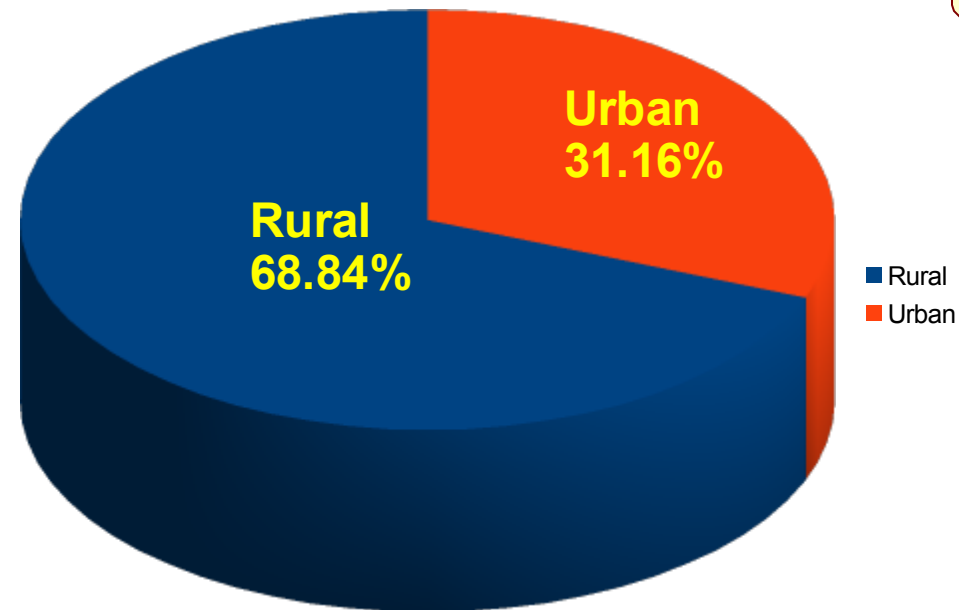


*Reasons are many. But root cause is **Human Resource**.
Human capital is a vital ingredient in building a nation.
EDUCATION is the key to build the human capital.*

Educational Scenario in Urban areas

Most of the educated people live in a highly connected world and are from developed urban region. The 'India', they perceive is very utopian and is quite different from the 'Real rural India'. Educated parents send their children to ICSE / CBSE /English medium Schools, monitor children's progress, mentor them, send them to tuition classes, and provide all facilities for their children to excel.

Population distribution



As per 2011 census

Srirampura village in 1992, where Divyadeepa started its grass root level work



Educational Scenario in Rural areas

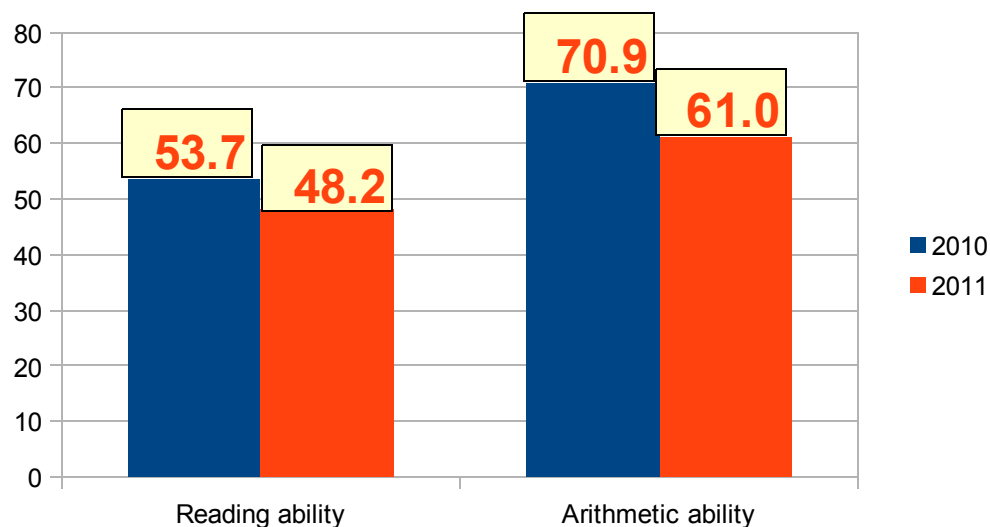
Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2011- Key findings

[Released by Sri Kapil Sibal, Minister for Human resource & development]

- Very high enrolment figures for rural India
- Private school enrolment is rising in most states
- Basic reading levels showing decline in many states
- Arithmetic levels also show a decline across most states
- Children's attendance has declined
- Not much change in compliance on Pupil-teacher ratio and Classroom-teacher ratio
- No major changes in buildings, playgrounds, boundary walls or drinking water
- Better provision of girls' toilets
- More libraries in schools, and more children using them

● Only 48.2% of 5th standard rural children can read 2nd standard text books (mother tongue)

● Only 61% of 5th standard rural children can solve two digit subtraction with borrowing.



Government's initiatives :

The Government is addressing this serious national issue in many ways such as:

- By starting free schools in almost all villages
- By providing free lunch for the school children
- By providing free uniforms
- By providing free text books
- By providing bicycles free of cost
- By giving scholarships
- Promotion of children to next higher standards annually, irrespective of learning
- By bringing legislations such as 'Right of children to Free and Compulsory Education Act.
- By teacher training programmes

Government's initiatives are laudable and has resulted in high school enrolment.

Divyadeepa's initiatives :

Divya Deepa Trust is running a free day-cum-residential innovative school, Kaliyuva Mane for the benefit of rural **OUT OF SYSTEM** children. The school is child-centric, innovative, eco-conscious and aims at social and national development. We are carrying grass root level research in the field of 'Education of rural **OUT OF SYSTEM** children. The aim is to share the knowledge gained with the stakeholders.

Conceptualization of Kaliyuva Mane :

Kaliyuva = Learning, Mane=Home

- Vision evolved from the ideals of Sri Aurobindo & Swami Vivekananda, related to concepts of education, human development & patriotism.
- Personal experiences of the founding member who is staying in villages since 1992 helped to shape the educational thought of this 'school for children' thus beginning the journey in education and self-exploration.
- The idea took shape in a Government school through interactions of the founding member with the children of Srirampura village for a period of over 12 years. The struggles of the children coming from difficult family backgrounds, the difficulties of first generation school goers and personal interest took shape in the form of present Kaliyuva Mane.



Divyadeepa's supplementary education centre started in 1992. Classes used to be conducted during morning and evening in an informal environment in batches. Employment cum income generating activities like screen printing, hand made greeting cards making, desk top publishing supported these educational activities financially.

Project target and Outreach:

- Kaliyuva Mane is a quasi-residential free innovative school for *OUT OF SYSTEM* children. These include school dropouts, first generation rural school goers, child labourers, children going to school but not reaching the desired standards, children from difficult family backgrounds, children unable to adjust to the strict regimen of the school among other cases. (except special children such as mentally challenged, blind, deaf & dumb etc.)
- The school was started in June 2005, with 14 children, 4 resident scholars and 10 day scholars.
- Most of the day scholars belong to nearby villages such as Kenchalagudu, Salhundi, Dhanagahalli and Srirampura. Resident scholars belong to distant places.
- This year children from distant villages are also coming to the school as day scholars. Divyadeepa has provided them free bus passes.

Year	Day scholars	Resident scholars	Total
2005-06	10	4	14
2006-07	9	14	23
2007-08	16	21	37
2008-09	20	20	40
2009-10	20	22	42
2010-11	27	25	52
2011-12	34	29	63
2012-13	49	32	81



Divyadeepa campus in 2006

Perspectives of Education



Kaliyuva Mane is child centric and is ready to bend any rule so that each child evolves happily. Kaliyuva Mane considers each educated person with values as an asset to his/her country in particular and to the world at large.

Challenges of educating rural children :

- Most of the people belong to economically and socially backward section of the society. They work hard from dawn to dusk to earn their daily bread and cannot give time for their children's development.
- Most of the children are malnourished.
- Poor infrastructure, hygiene conditions & sanitation facilities repel educated people to settle down at villages. So often educated urbanites fail to appreciate the problems and priorities of villagers.
- Generally parents are not educated and don't comprehend the importance of education. Parents tend to withdraw a girl child from the school after puberty.
- Caste system is more prominent.
- Tapped water is rarely available at homes. During summer, villagers have to face water scarcity.
- Health care is a big issue.
- People believe in superstitions.
- 12 hours of power cut per day is a norm in villages.
- Normally schools lack basic infrastructure. Prevailing rote teaching methods compounds the whole issue.
- Newspapers do not reach villages. When power is available, rural elders watch soap operas. So children are deprived of general awareness about current affairs.
- In some homes children witness domestic violence and in some other, they will be the victims of it!
- Children's material organisation skills are very poor. They tend to throw things here and there.

- *First generation school goers lack attention, exhibit aversion towards rote learning, do not appreciate the relevance of the curriculum followed in the city urban schools, express a dislike for writing. Children's concentration and retention span is very less.*
- *So to educate OUT OF SYSTEM children such as school dropouts, children with difficult family backgrounds is a herculean task.*
- *But children are bright. They grasp things faster. They ask a lot of questions. They have a different skill set. To prepare them to face time bound memory testing public examination is not only challenging but also a thankless job for the ordinary teachers.*

Kaliyuva Mane's education system tries to accommodate all these issues.



Admission process :

- Children are being admitted throughout the year depending on the resources available such as infrastructure, human and financial resource.
- School normally admits only a few children below the age of 12 at a time. If elder children evince keen interest to study, they also will be considered.
- Simple informal entrance test is conducted to understand academic level of that child and to fix the curriculum. This is not a parameter to decide the admission of the child into school.
- Parents/Guardians need not reveal the birth factors such a 'caste' and 'religion'.
- Children with difficult family backgrounds are taken as resident scholars, rest as day scholars.

Nucleus

Nucleus of this school is the children. At Kaliyuva Mane, we have discovered that an uncluttered mind is a pre-requisite for learning. Love, care and empathy are the essential ingredients for an uncluttered mind. We strongly believe that children should retain a 'sense of wonder' in them and enjoy their childhood to the brim.





Child care :

- Nutritious breakfast, lunch and dinner are being served to all resident scholars. Due to shortage of facilities and funds, we are unable to serve mid-day meals for day scholars.
- Children are treated with love and affection.
- Prompt medical attention is being given to all resident scholars.
- We are paying extra attention to improve their hygiene and material organizing skills.



Dynamic groups instead of rigid standards

- Children have been divided into dynamic groups such as Chilipili, Chiguru, Prajna, Chinmayi, Tejas, Mythri, Spoorthi and Chaitanya depending on their current knowledge, age and their grasping ability.
- Movement of the children from one group and another is highly individualistic and based on the progress of that particular child (not period bound as in main stream schools)
- A child can study one subject in a particular group and another subject in a different group.
- Because of this approach, a 12 years old child without the basic knowledge of alphabets or numbers finds space at Kaliyuva Mane, whereas the same child may be a misfit in other main stream schools.



Flexible Curriculum

- Kaliyuva Mane follows its own curriculum which is dynamic and yet rooted in the sum of all the experiences provided by the children.
- The diverse backgrounds of children along with their diverse cognitive (varied learning levels with respect to academic subjects) and emotional needs demand individual care and attention. This involves constant reflections on the thoughts and actions of both the teachers and students.
- Kaliyuva Mane firmly believes that teaching is a time bound activity, whereas learning is a process bound activity. Efforts are on to design Individual child-specific curricula.

Medium of instruction :

- This is neither a Kannada medium nor an English medium school in a conventional sense. This is a children's medium school.
- This is a bi-lingual school in a sense that all children learn both the languages.
- Core subjects are first taught in Kannada-English, gradually in English-Kannada. Ultimately children appear for X standard exams in English medium.
- Normally resident children above ten years converse only in English during mornings - whether right or wrong!



Contextual learning

Learning is not restricted to class rooms. When children see a rainbow, they will learn the mystery behind it. Similarly standing in front of Sun, it is easier for children to grasp the concept of directions.

Freedom to fail :

- We firmly believe that to succeed, one should have certain amount of freedom to fail and learn.
- No place is forbidden for children in Kaliyuva Mane including Kitchen & office.
- Children are allowed to discover, explore and expand their knowledge through various learning experiences.

Joy of learning

Normally a child is given enough time to feel at home and be emotionally comfortable. This may take from a few days to several months. A learning environment already prevails here. Learning is through activities, experiments, interaction and formal teaching.



Teachers :

- Teacher is not a strict task master, but a friend and a guide.
- Teacher studies the background, likes and dislikes of the child, builds rapport with the child before commencing lessons.
- While recruiting teachers, formal qualifications are not considered. Factors such as knowledge, values and the skill to transmit the knowledge are considered.
- Rigorous teachers' training programme is an on going activity at Kaliyuva Mane.
- Teaching is through activities, experiemnts interactions, presentations and video shows appearing children.
- Student to teacher from 1:1 to 1:10



Kids' Bank :

- Bank works from a small kiosk. Bank contains laminated currency notes, ledgers, challans etc.
- Every month child above the age of 10 years gets a cheque for a certain amount depending on the child's needs. Bank also has a material section which contains toiletries, sweetmeats and stationeries.
- Child writes a challan and deposits the cheque into its account. Child can purchase its needs from the bank. Each child is given a cash box, a personalized cheque book and a pass book.
- Child gets a special gift cheque recognizing its helping nature, exhibition, positive attitude and academic performance etc. Children can also earn by working for a maximum period of two hours per day.
- Children work as managers on rotation basis. Teacher help children in this act.
- Kids' bank is helping them to understand the value of money, banking transactions. It is enhancing their work culture, arithmetic skills and is preparing them for the real world.



Gift Cheque

Date : ..20-02-2008

Pay. SHRUTHI

Rupees. FIVE ONLY

Kids bank

Rs. 5/-

Kalyana Mani-ವಾಸು ದೇವ
Kenchalaguda, Mysore - 570008

Martiger

Date 27.2.08

Pay. Self

Rupees. Two only

Ac No. 6010

Rs. 2

Kalyana Mani-ವಾಸು ದೇವ
Kenchalaguda, Mysore - 570008

Susmitha.P

1/0002

Vanasuma – An eco laboratory & a resource centre

The campus is a laboratory for environment related experiments. More than 300 trees have kept the land green clean and serene. Children are subconsciously becoming eco sensitive. The functioning of these facilities are being explained to grown up children. Children are exposed to following environment related activities.

- Organic farming
- Dairy
- Gobar gas plant for cooking
- Astra stove for cooking
- Bio mass boiler for hot water
- Use of eco chip boards
- Rain water harvesting
- Borewell recharging
- Solar lighting
- Eco toilet
- Use of asbrestos free roof sheets
- Solid waste management



Participation of volunteers



- When there is a general feeling that today's youth lack direction and shirk responsibility, it is heartening to note that volunteers from Engineering colleges, Medical colleges & Business schools have become an integral component of our school. Senior volunteers are not lagging behind!



- They raise funds, link donors, teach, build emotional rapport with the kids & have given dreams to our children.

- Volunteers from Germany, UK and USA have volunteered at Divyadeepa which has broadened the vision of the kids of Kaliyuva Mane.





Campus as an educational tool :

A wall teaches children the geometrical shapes, Opening of a door teaches the concept of angle. Question box quenches the thirst of knowledge of the children. Plans are there to transform entire campus of 2 acres and 33 guntas into a learning area.

A beehive of activities [Personality development programmes]

Work culture :

Children are involved in cooking, screen printing, greeting cards making, cleaning, repair and maintenance of equipments, gardening, dairy, office works... Children consider this not as work, but as an activity. This has enhanced their work skills and kept them healthy.

Creative education :

A lump of clay, a heap of sand, a piece of drawing paper triggers creativity in the children.



Celebrations & Festivals

Celebration of festivals like Ganesha, Deepavali, Christmas, Holi, keep children happy.



Celebrations of National Festivals like Independence day & Republic day develops patriotism in children.

Cultural functions:

At least one cultural function per month is a norm in our school. Children play a major role in all the functions, from invocation to vote of thanks. Children learn to dance, enact skits, sing bhajans in the evenings.



Computer education :

Kaliyuva Mane has a computer supported by solar powered inverter. Children learn typing, play computer games. Children above 12 years have email ids and exchange mails with the volunteers.



Physical education :

The school has a vast play ground. Various outdoor and indoor sports materials are available for the kids. Children play both western and indian country games like marbles and tops. Children also learn yogasanas.

No fear instilling Examinations!

Oral /written tests are conducted at regular intervals not to label the child 'passed' or 'failed', but to quantify the change that is underway.

Certification :

15 years old children will appear for X standard public examination (SSLC) conducted by Karnataka state board in English medium when they are ready.

Post matric support :

Divyadeepa is supporting many children's further studies so that they evolve into self-reliant citizens of India.

Arvind group children(1st batch from Kaliyuva mane) who cleared the milestone X std. Exams in flying colours.



Public Examination results :

The result of the X standard public exam indicates the impact of the school on children. Each child had a past. All were first generation school goers from rural 'Below Poverty Line' families. Many had turbulent childhoods. Many of them were dropouts from main stream Kannada medium schools. A few were working as child labourers. A few were zero level learners in the main stream rural schools.

The highlight of their journey was their commitment towards accommodating 10 years of education into 3-5 years of education at Kaliyuva Mane! They all passed in English medium.

Year	group	Appeared	passed	First class	%
2010	Aravind	7	6	1	85.7
2011	-	-	-	-	-
2012	Vivek	6	6	2	100

Vivek group children celebrating their success in X std. public examinations :





Support this grass root level nation building project :

- ◆ Become a volunteer.
- ◆ Donate liberally. You are welcome to sponsor food expenses/ sponsor a child/ sponsor infrastructure/ / sponsor staff salary.
- ◆ Donate towards corpus fund.
- ◆ Buy our 'T' shirts with inspirational quotes
- ◆ Buy our exclusive eco friendly hand made greeting cards made by disabled rural youth.
- ◆ Purchase 'Rain tubes' which produce a soothing sound of flowing water.
- ◆ Donate old newspapers. Let your old newspapers empower our children.
- ◆ Help us to set up a stall at a corporate office/ educational institutes and other places.
- ◆ Spread a word about Divyadeepa

For details, please call : 09341369901 or mail : divyadeepa.trust@gmail.com

WELL WISHERS OF DIVYADEEPA



Great
Knowledge
Makes
you
Great
APJ

***Dream, Dream, Dream!
Dreams transform
into thoughts,
Thoughts transform
into Actions***

Former president of India
Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam
preaching the mantra of
dreaming and
converting them into actions
when we met him.

Mr. N.R. Narayana Murthy, Infosys founder visited Divyadeepa on 16th January 2011. After taking the tour of the campus and interacting with the kids and volunteers, he wrote in the guest register:

"I am extremely happy to see the wonderful work being done by Divyadeepa team to empower the forgotten India. Best wishes!"

Challenges and Support :

'Kaliyuva Mane is a free experimental school and is evolving into a research home. Parents/guardians cannot afford to pay any fees and Government is not supporting in any way. Divyadeepa solely depends on public contributions and volunteers' work. So managing finance is a difficult job. Similarly it is a challenge to discover competent manpower in a remote village. Divyadeepa welcomes the participation of corporates, individuals in its grass root level nation-building task. A list of Divyadeepa's major supporters has been published on our website.

Mahindra & Mahindra in its nation building program, *Spark The Rise* invites innovative ideas for the development of the nation. Divyadeepa's project "Education of the rural OUT OF SYSTEM children" emerged as 2nd runners up in the Grand finale held in April 2012. For details, please log on to :

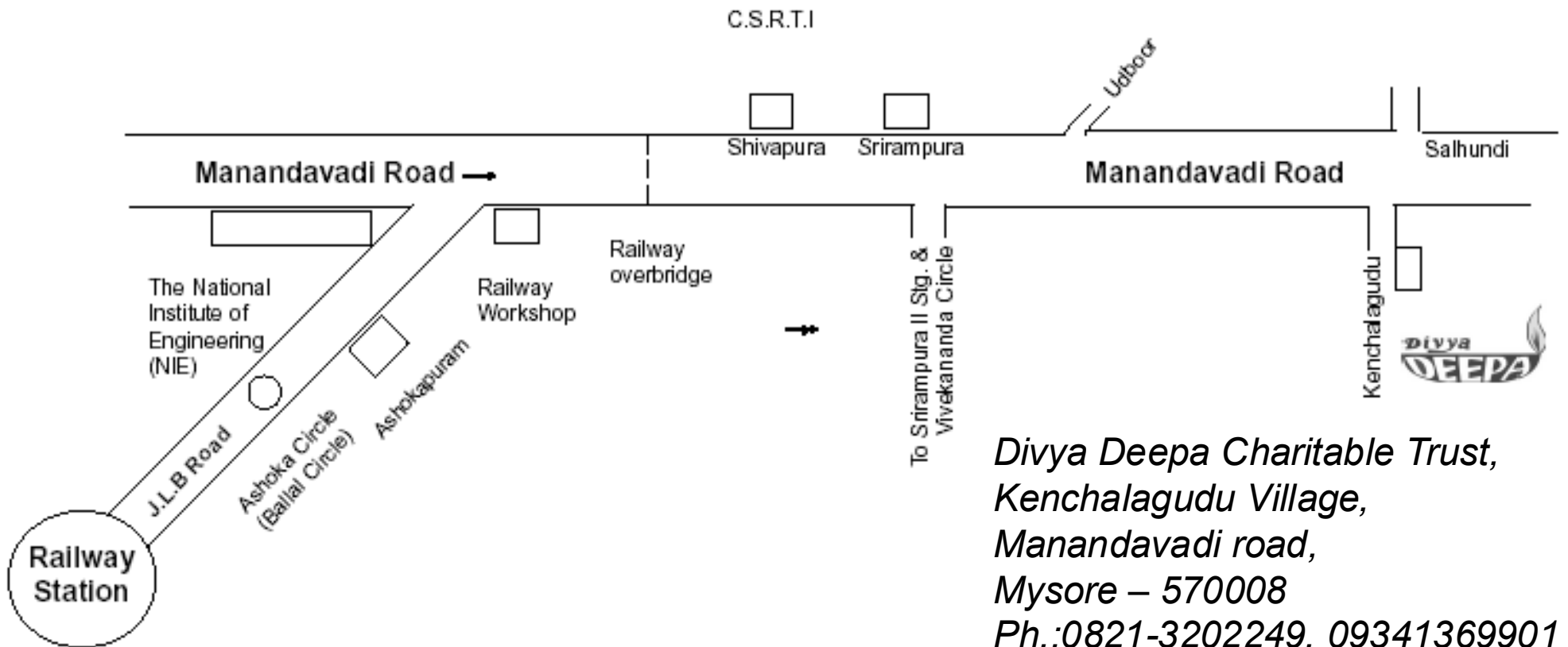
<http://www.sparktherise.com/projectdetails.php?pld=4751>



We have come a long way, yet miles to go.....

*Divyadeepa wants you to be our co-traveler in our
“**journey inside the young minds**”*

Divyadeepa family of kids, volunteers and staff welcomes you!



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